

Island Fling



OCTOBER, 2003

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society
P.O. Box 30123, Saanich Centre Postal Outlet
Victoria, B.C. V8X 5E1 Canada
Affiliated with the RSCDS, Edinburgh, Scotland

Executive Committee

President	James Scott	370-2359
Past President	Thelma Bell	652-5122
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2nd Vice President and Membership	Mary Roberts	385-1082
Secretary	June Robinson	477-8317
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Treasurer	Merle Peterson	477-8331
Social Convenor	Jan Thorsen	380-5154
Teacher Representative	Joan Axford	474-1018

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Summer is past now and the darker, longer evenings are setting in. Classes are in full swing and the Social Dancing Season is again upon us.

I would remind dancers that they may attend ANY class at or below their level. If you feel like a little extra practice in the wonderful world of phrasing drop in on a lower class and help out. I know the teachers would appreciate it. Our first event is the Harvest Social at Brentwood Bay Hall and as in past years I expect a capacity crowd will meet.

As a number of you know I am restricted to Low Impact 'til at least Christmas until the two wee broken bones in my foot heal properly.

Over the summer we have lost (temporarily and permanently) through illness and non-dance related injuries a number of our senior dancers. Oh to be eighteen again! On this subject, if you hear of any of our dancers be they in VISCDs or other dance groups taken ill or worse, please let me know so that we (Thelma) can acknowledge that we are thinking of them. Scottish Country Dancers belong to a huge family and as we all know a great number are singles. We must keep in touch.

Janet is working hard on the Workshop Weekend budget. Jan is working on a pleasant surprise (Next issue) Mary needs her registration fees ASAP. Christine is doing her great job of editing this newsletter and I'm being really nice to my secretary June so she doesn't desert me.

James Scott, President

EXECUTIVE COLUMN

Treasurer

Some recent questions regarding the increase in cost of VISCDs insurance have indicated a need for clarification on what/who is covered by the Society's insurance policy (a General Commercial Insurance Policy). The provisions of the policy regarding "bodily injury", "personal injury liability", and "medical expenses" all refer to third party cases, that is non-VISCDs people (for example, a church janitor) who may be affected by some injury related to the Society. Dancers, teachers, and DEM team members are NOT included in this coverage. To achieve coverage for dancers, teachers, and DEM team members would necessitate an additional Society insurance. Dancers can, however, in their own personal insurance policies insure some protection for themselves, if they so wish, a matter for discussion with your personal insurance agent.

Merle Peterson

Golf Shirts

We have had no response on this item from members. Shelved for another time.

Jim Scott

Electronic Newsletter.

We have received a few more names and some queries as to how to do it. Any more?

Jim Scott

Hard Copy Newsletters

A few members have not gone up or down a class as was expected and received their Fling only after having it mailed to them. If you have changed class or have not yet registered for this year please inform Christine Rushforth where she is to drop off your copy.

Jim Scott

Phone Fan Out.

We received a number of volunteers and I will, with the membership chair, make up a list and get it out to the phone committee before Christmas.

Jim Scott

Demonstration Team.

The Demonstration Team has started their practices again and are working on some

new routines. Our instructor, Joan Axford, appears to have found some free time during the summer so has come up with some new stuff for us to work up.

Our next scheduled performance is at a Scottish concert, Saturday October 25 at the Church of the Advent in Colwood. This is a fund raiser for the church and is always a very enjoyable evening so we hope to see some of our members come out and support them. I believe the tickets are \$10 at the door.

Thelma Bell.

Winter School Pitlochry

Brochures have been passed out to each class. If any more are needed contact Alex McAuley. See September Fling for more info. This school fills up fast and has a limited number of dancers from all over the world.

Next Executive Meeting

Oct 23. Any new business to be in to June Robinson by Oct. 17.

Jim Scott

WORKSHOP AND BALL WEEKEND 2004

Volunteer with muscles (and perhaps a larger vehicle) needed to pick-up, look after and return the music equipment rentals for the weekend. Please call Janet for details at 655-0235.

Janet Rice

2004 Workshop and Ball Coordinator

SO YOU'RE GOING TO RUSSIA?

With a chuckle, people would say "Is there Scottish Country Dancing in Russia?" I can't speak to the rest of Russia, but in Krasnodar, the Kuban Scottish Country Dancers are not only flourishing, but were keen to be our hosts for a delightful combination of dancing and touring.

It wasn't that long ago that Ilona Gumenyuk, visited Britain, learned to do Scottish country dancing, and was bitten by the bug. Her love of dancing was infectious, and she amassed a good-sized group of keen dancers. What was missing? There were no other Scottish country dancers in the vicinity. So Ilona, along with Fiona Grant from Bristol, organized a group of some 50 dancers to join them, and I was pleased to be one of these.

Yes, classes were run in English with someone translating salient points into Russian. They had learned most formations by their international names, including "strathspey travelling step". The locals learned quickly: one lady who'd been only slightly hesitant with the more complex formations told me she'd danced for all of two months!

I would be at a loss to choose the most memorable event of the 10 days. Would it be

- The Russian ceilidh, packed with local music and dance, where even the teenagers came and invited us to try some of their dances?
- Our first "dip" in the Black Sea, approached by way of a glass elevator scooting several stories down from our hotel?
- The Cossack meal that went on for hours, course after course, accompanied by musicians?
- The afternoon in an Armenian village involving an open air barbeque, dancing on the lawn, a hike through the bushes, and a beating with oak branches in an experience known as a Russian bath?
- A formal dinner at which we interspersed our ceilidh items with Russian entertainment in a presentation to local dignitaries?
- The nightly sampling of vodka? (Russki Standart wins!)

What I will say is that none of it would have been nearly as much fun had it not been enhanced by the spirit of dancers. The visiting dancers (from Britain, Eire, France, Canada,

Germany, New Zealand and USA) all shared a happy, friendly manner and willingness to "try anything & accept everything" during our travels. The Russian dancers looked after us well, showing us sights, taking us shopping, and communicating their joy of the dance. It reinforces the idea that where you have Scottish country dancing, you have friends!

HOWARD HOSPITAL BENEFIT DANCE SEPTEMBER 27, 2003

A total of \$1892.26 was raised at the Howard Hospital Benefit dance and thanks are due to many people for this successful event.

The Scottish Country Dancing program was devised by Bob Anderson and assisted by Sheila McCall, Kathryn Taylor, Raymond Thomson and Ray Perkins.

Howard Hospital physician, Dr. Paul Thistle, a graduate of the University of Toronto and his wife Padrinah joined in a number of the dances and, during intermission, Paul gave a very interesting talk about his work at the hospital.

A large amount of Recycled Medications was brought which will be taken to Howard Hospital by Lorraine when she leaves the end of Oct.

The Silent Auction in the enthusiastic hands of Una Lennam and Anita Mathur was a huge success bringing in a total of \$480.05.

Our warmest thanks to those who gave so generously, contributed financially, served in the kitchen, collected money, decorated, cleaned up, talked the dances, brought food and to Jamie Orr for the wonderful piping.

A very special thank you to Victoria Branch for their support, their President and his wife Roger and Betty Walker, Sheila McCall, Kathryn Taylor, Raymond Thomson and Ray Perkins plus a number of others.

Thanks to all those who attended the Benefit; each of you in your own way making the Benefit a success.

Diane Robinson

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIAL

8:00p.m., Nov 15 2003

St. Martin's in the Fields Church Hall, 550, Obed Ave.

The Jubilee Jig	J8x32	C	B
John of Bon Accord	R8x32	RSCDS Bk 33	A
St. Andrew's Links	S3x32	see next page	I
Hooper's Jig	J8x32	C	I
Triumph	R4x32	C	B
Blue Mess Jacket	S4x32	C	A
St. Andrew's Fair *	J8x32	RSCDS 1982	B
Frog in the Middle	R8x32	Misc 11	I
Culla Bay **	S4x32	C	A
The Hazel Tree	J8x32	C	I
The Fisherman's Reel	R5x32	Dunblane Holiday 7	I
St. John River/			B
Belle of Bon Accord	S4x32	C	I

Break

Joe MacDiarmid's Jig	J8x32	C	B
The Button Boy	R8x32	C	I
The Robertson Rant **	S80bar	C	A
Polharrow Burn**	R5x32	C	A
Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterader	J128 bar	C	A
The Montgomerie's Rant	R8x32	C	

C= Core Book * briefing only ** no briefing or walk- through

St. Andrew's Day, 30th November

St. Andrew is the Patron Saint for Scotland, perhaps a little strange, as he has no connection with Caledonia or Alba as Scotland was variously called during his lifetime. Andrew, brother to Peter, was one of the Twelve Apostles. He was crucified and chose a diagonal cross feeling unworthy of a vertical cross. The National Flag for Scotland is the Saltire- a white diagonal cross on a blue field. You will see this flag incorporated in the Union Jack and several Canadian Provincial flags, notably that of Nova Scotia.

Anon

HARVEST SOCIAL

8:00 p.m., October 18, 2003 at Brentwood Hall

Goodhearted Glasgow	32J3	C	B
Button Boy	32R3	C	I
Belle of Bon Accord	32S4	C	B
** The Dancing Master	96J4	C	A
General Stewart's Reel	32R3	C	I
Monymusk	32S3	C	B
The Hazel Tree/ or	32J3	C	I
The Moray Reel	32J3	C	B
Bratch Bana	32R3	C	A
** Staffin Harvest	32S4	C	I
Coats Land	32J3	Scotia Suite	B
Bonnie Stronshiray	32S3	C	A
The Piper and the Penguin	88R4	Scotia Suite	B
Break			
Clutha	48R4	C	B
** McLeod's Fancy	32J4	C	A
Miss Gibson's Strathspey	32S3	C	I
Polharrow Burn	32R5	C	A
Cherry Bank Gardens	32S3	C	B
*Seaton's Ceilidh Band	64J4	C	I

C – Core Book
B – Basic

* -- Briefing Only
I – Intermediate

** -- No Briefing or Walk Through
A – Advanced

THE PIPER AND THE PENGUIN (Reel for Four Couples in a Square Set)

Bars	Description
1-4	The women dance round their corners, passing in front of them to begin.
5-8	The women dance right hands across and remain in the centre.
9-12	The women dance round their partners, passing in front of them to begin.
13-16	The women dance left hands across and finish in original places.
17-32	The men repeat bars 1-16 but dance in front of their partners before dancing right hands across and in front of their corners before dancing left hands cross.
33-36	1 st and 3 rd couples, giving right hands, turn partners one and a quarter times.
37-40	1 st man followed by his partner, dances between the 4 th couple and casts back to place. Similarly 3 rd couple dance between 2 nd couple and cast back to place.
41-48	1 st and 3 rd couples dance rights and lefts.
49-64	2 nd and 4 th couples repeat bars 33-48, 2 nd couple dancing between 1 st couple and 4 th couple dancing between 3 rd couple.
65-72	The women dance in and pull back right shoulders (2 bars), dance out (2 bars), and cast clockwise half way round the set to the opposite woman's place.
73-80	The men repeat bars 65-72, but pull back left shoulders at the end of bar 74 and cast anticlockwise.
81-84	All turn partners with the right hand just once around to finish in promenade hold facing anticlockwise.
85-88	All promenade halfway around the set. On bar 87, all release right hands and the men lead their partners to original places ready for the bow and curtsy.

Instructions for COATS LAND in previous issue of Island Fling

COMING EVENTS - LOCAL

- Oct 18 '03 **VISCDS HARVEST SOCIAL** 8:00 p.m., Brentwood Hall. Program in this issue.
- Oct. 24 '03 **ALEXANDER BROS** sponsored by the St. Andrews and Caledonian Society. 7:30 p.m. UVic Auditorium, cost \$20. Tickets call Alex and Francis Reid 370-9226.
- Oct. 25 '03 **HIGHLAND DANCE COMPETITION** sponsored by The Sons of Scotland. 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Saanich Fairgrounds.
- Nov 7/8 '03 **RSCDS WORKSHOP AND DANCE** Cadboro Bay United Church Hall. See schedule of events and registration forms on www.rscdsvictoria.org or contact Connie Bott 595-4308 or Anita Mathur 383-8808 (more details on page 3 of this newsletter)
- Nov 15 '03 **VISCDS ST. ANDREW'S SOCIAL** 8:00 p.m. St. Martin in the Fields
- Dec 13 '03 **JOINT VISCDS/RSCDS CHRISTMAS SOCIAL** Cadboro Bay United Church Hall
- Jan 17 '04 **VISCDS BURN'S SOCIAL** St. Martin in the Fields Church Hall
- Feb 21 '04 **VALENTINES SOCIAL** St. Martin in the Fields Church Hall
- Feb 28 '04 **SONA SOCIAL** 7:30 p.m. at Duncan United Church
- Mar 27/28 '04 **VISCDS BALL WEEKEND**
- May 1 '04 **VISCDS SPRING FLING**

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- Nov 1 '03 **SONA SOCIAL** 7:30 p.m. at Duncan United Church
- Feb. '04 **PITLOCHRY WORKSHOP**, If enough dancers are interested, a party might go from Van Isle to the workshop. I would welcome expressions of interest from dancers. We'll need about 20 or so to approach Air Canada for special group status. *Alex McAuley* (595-1607 or amcauley@uvic.ca)
- Feb. 28 '04 **SONA SOCIAL** 7:30 p.m. at Duncan United Church

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWS LETTER, Nov. 1, 2003

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